THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

VOL. XXXI. NO. 4. BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1912. PRICE FIVE CENTS

TOWN COUNCIL.

MEARS COMPLAINT FROM ASSISTANT HEALTH OFFICER ELLOR.

Auditors' Report Approved — Mix Vault Privilege Granted — Lackawanna Place Paving Causes Long Discussion.

Assistant Health Officer William H. Ellor stated at the Town Council meeting Monday night that by direction of the Board of Health he had opened the ditch between Orange and Charles streets to Hill street and drained off the surface water from the yards in that locality. According to the descriptions given by Mr. Ellor he found a very unsanitary condition of affairs there, and the bad condition was further aggravated by a manure pile in the rear of Active Hose Company, No. 2, from which a stench emanated that was very annoying to nearby residents. Mr. Ellor suggested that the town have a cement pit constructed for the storage of manure.

Mayor Hauser said that the matter would be attended to at once, and requested the fire committee to give it immediate attention.

On motion of Mr. Murray of the finance committee a warrant for $1,500 was ordered drawn in favor of the Fidelity Trust Company to meet the semi-annual interest on the street improvement bonds.

The audit of the town accounts for the year 1911, made by Samuel W. Fisk, was on motion of Mr. Murray approved. The auditor's report was too voluminous to discuss in detail, Mr. Murray said, especially at a meeting where so many other matters were to be considered, and he suggested that in its publication in the annual town report some of the items be given more in detail, particularly those matters relating to improvements for which a part of the cost had been charged against the town, and his motion that the finance committee have supervision of the publishing of the annual report was carried. The contract for printing the report was, on motion of Mr. Murray, awarded to William A. Ritscher, Jr., in accordance with the terms of his bid.

Mr. Unangst, chairman of the building committee, reported favorably on the application of Theodore Mix to construct a vault under the sidewalk in front of his premises, 311 Glenwood avenue, in connection with the new store building he proposed to erect there. Messrs. Albinson and Harrison seconded the motion.

Mayor Hauser said that the council was well aware of his attitude towards all applications for special privileges. The sidewalk, he said, belonged to the public, and the town should be compensated where land under the public sidewalk was used. The mayor alone voted no on the question of granting the desired privilege.

Mr. Unangst also reported that the debris of the burned Rabb's hotel building was being removed preparatory to the erection of a new structure.

In response to an inquiry from the mayor, Mr. Unangst stated that Architect John F. Capen had prepared the plans for the addition to Central firehouse.

On motion of Mr. Sadler of the public grounds committee, seconded by Mr. Hummel, the council voted an appropriation of $3,600 for the laying out of the public park at Broad street and Bay avenue, along the lines of the plan submitted by Landscape Architect Henry Baechlin.

Mr. Unangst raised the question of the power of the council to act in the matter of laying out the park, as the council had transferred authority over public parks to the Shade Tree Commission.

Town Attorney Kocher said that the council could acquire lands and lay out parks, but their care and custody would be in the hands of the Shade Tree Commission.

On motion of Mr. Sadler a warrant for $300 was ordered drawn and made payable to Town Attorney Kocher to pay to Mary Walker for the land owned by her in the Second ward park tract.

Mr. Hummel, chairman of the road committee, introduced a resolution Monday night for the opening of Morse avenue from Carteret street to Llewellyn avenue. A public hearing on the resolution will be given June 17.

Mr. Hummel offered a motion to rescind the resolution adopted on April 15 for the paving of Lackawanna place. The original resolution called for a concrete or asphalt pavement, without specifying any particular kind, but Blanchard & Price, the owners of over one-half the frontage on one side of the street, had petitioned the council to pave the street with bitulithic pavement, and in order to comply with their request Mr. Hummel said that a new resolution was necessary.

Mr. Murray spoke at considerable length against limiting street paving work to any one specified kind, and claimed that where the work was being done under a resolution of the council the council should reserve the right to select the quality of pavement.

Mr. Hummel agreed with Mr. Murray's contentions on general grounds, but as this was a case where property owners themselves had asked for a specific kind of pavement, in his opinion it was but proper and right to accede to the request.

Town Attorney Kocher said that the solution of the matter before the council was to vote on the specific question, shall this improvement be made or not made?

Under the general terms of the ordinance as it stood, Mr. Kocher said, if bitulithic pavement is wanted, the question would arise of the legal power of the council to award the contract for if in the face of lower bids by responsible parties for other kinds of pavement.

Mr. Hummel offered a motion that the improvement be not made, which was carried, and he offered a new resolution complying with the request of property owners.

Mr. Murray opposed the adoption of the resolution, and it failed of unanimous vote, Messrs. Harrison and Murray voting in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Hummel the council decided to have permit blanks prepared for the use of the Superintendent of Public Works in granting permits for various street uses.

Sunday-School June Walk.

The annual June walk of the Sunday-schools of this town will be held next Saturday afternoon, June 1.

The number of schools taking part in the procession this year will be increased by four, thus practically every Sunday-school in town will be in line.

General exercises will be held concurrently in two of the churches, the First Presbyterian and the Westminster Presbyterian Churches having been selected on account of their large seating capacity.

It is expected that from 1,600 to 2,000 persons will take part. Each school will assemble in its own schoolroom and forming a procession will march to the church to which it is assigned for the general exercises, which will take place at 3 o'clock. The exercises will be short but spirited and will be in charge of Mr. Charles L. Seibert at the Westminster, and Mr. Frank B. Stone at the First Church. At 3:45 o'clock the schools will leave the churches and march to the Green, each led by a band of twelve instruments. At the Green the general parade will take place, under the direction of Mr. Howard M. Thomas, grand marshal.

It is expected that flags will be displayed from residences in the neighborhood of the park and that the churches also will be decorated.

Rev. John Ogden Winner and Rev Dr. C. H. Wilson will make the addresses.

Memorial Day Exercises.

be held in Jarvie [illegible] day night, under the auspices of William S. Pierson Post, Grand Army of the Republic.

The Women's Relief Corps of the post and the order of Sons of Veterans will assist in the arrangements.

The exercises will open with a procession of the few remaining veterans of the once large membership of the local Grand Army Post. The Rev. John O. Winner of the Park Methodist Church will deliver the invocation.

There will be chorus singing by the High School Glee Club, conducted by Professor P. J. Smith. Solos by Leon Rice, a celebrated vocalist. Elliot Dafter, will recite Lincoln's Gettysburg address, and the oration will be delivered by William A. Frye, D.D., of the Central Methodist Church, Orange.

Primary Election.

The Presidential preference primary election will be held Tuesday, the 28th inst. The polls will open at 1 o'clock in the afternoon and remain open until 9 o'clock in the evening. The polling places will be the same as those used at the general election last fall. The number registered in each election district in the town is as follows:

	Vote Cast in 1911	Registered by Affidavit.	
First ward—			
First district	211	19	230
Second district	267	43	310
Third district	271	38	309
Second ward—			
First district	197	29	226
Second district	175	35	210
Third district	86	20	106
Third ward—			
First district	172	23	195
Second district	100	1	101
Third district	229	12	241
Fourth district	188	14	212
Total	2016	234	2250

Trunk Sewer Matter.

Mr. Sadler, chairman of the sewer committee, reported at the Town Council meeting Monday night that owing to many other engagements on the part of Mr. Riker, counsel for the Passaic Valley Sewer Commissioners, the conference with the commission on the application of the town to join the trunk sewer contract had not been held. The delay, he said, was up to Mr. Riker and not to the town. There was no danger in the delay, Mr. Sadler said.

To Prepare for Parade.

School Commissioner Clarence E. Van Winkle appeared before the Town Council Monday night and requested that the streets through which the school children's centennial parade would pass on Monday, June 10, be sprinkled with water about two hours before the time of starting the parade. Mayor Hauser requested Mr. Hummel of the road committee, to take the matter up with Road Superintendent Stimus.

Safe Deposit Boxes.

You are invited to call and inspect our Safety Boxes in our Burglar and Fire Proof Vaults. Boxes to rent at $4.00 per annum. The Bloomfield National Bank.—Adv.

BIG PROTEST

Against Proposed Orange Street Widening — Watsessing Property Owners at the Council Meeting Monday Night Claim that Eight Thousand Dollars of the Assessment was Represented in Protests.

The delegation of Watsessing district property owners in attendance at the Town Council meeting Monday night filled the council room and the corridor and part of the stairway. The occasion for the large turnout was the public hearing on the petition for the opening, extending and widening of Orange street. With very few exceptions the citizens attending the hearing were opposed to the proposed improvement and to the assessment.

The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company and the Erie Railroad Company were among the objectors. F S. Hancock, a Newark lawyer, presented an objection signed by two hundred and thirty-nine objectors, and which he said was estimated to represent $7,700 of the total amount of the assessment levied.

Mr. Hancock's protest was as follows:

"The undersigned property owners in the town of Bloomfield, in the vicinity of Orange street and Watsessing avenue, and hence materially interested in the plan hereinafter mentioned, do hereby protest and record our disapproval of the proposed plan for the widening of Orange street, now before your honorable body.

"First—The proposed plan is not one that meets present requirements and necessities. It is a plan beneficial to the owner of the premises to be appropriated, and who is to be compensated by the payment to him of a sum of money, which is far in excess of the present value of the land, and beneficial only to the owners of property immediately surrounding that to be appropriated, because of the proposed removal of the buildings, these owners obtain an unobstructed view of the railroad centre. This plan is beneficial to them and them alone.

"Second—The proposed vacation of the triangular strip involves an expenditure of money that is unwarranted and unnecessary. These funds can be and should be used to much better advantage for other purposes. The streets in our section are unpaved. Mud may be seen to a depth of from three to four inches. Our sidewalks are not curbed. Our land is not properly drained. Large areas are continually covered by water which [illegible] ing has been done to better these conditions. These are improvements which should be given your immediate attention. The widening of Orange street is not immediately essential.

"Third—The proposed improvement is not desired by those people vitally interested therein. Many of those who signed the original petition have reconsidered the same and have withdrawn their signatures and consent. We, the taxpayers, the ones who are called upon to meet this expenditure, express our deepest disapproval and object and protest against the plan.

"We recommend this petition for your careful consideration and ask that you abandon the entire project now before you."

In addition to the general objection and the railroad companies' objections there were several individual objections.

C. C. Lurich, a real estate agent at Watsessing Centre, spoke in favor of the proposed improvement, and in his opinion it showed a lack of civic pride when men let a paltry assessment stand in the way of carrying out the improvement. Another property owner at Watsessing Centre also spoke in favor of the improvement. Former Councilman Charles W. Chabot favored the improvement, but objected to the method pursued by the Board of Assessors in levying the assessment. Property on the west side of the railroad, Mr. Chabot said, was assessed forty per cent. higher than on the east side.

Mr. Chabot claimed that if the proposed improvement was a part of a plan to make better railroad station appearances, then as a matter of justice East Orange property owners should bear part of the cost, as they got large benefit from the station.

Fred C. Aucott, leading the opposition, spoke against the assessment and criticised the plan for the future disposition of the saloon that would be done away with if the improvment was carried out.

Mayor Hauser took exceptions to Mr. Aucott's remarks and said he was presuming altogether too much.

Mr. Albinson made a motion that the council decide not to make the improvement. He said that public sentiment in the territory affected by it was almost unanimous against it.

Messrs. Edgerley and Gilson, who were regarded as the leading advocates of it, were content to let it drop, and had authorized him to say so.

Mr. Unangst promptly seconded Mr. Albinson's motion, but Mr. Murray opposed such a hasty dismissal of the matter. There was a legal side to the matter that must be considered, Mr. Murray said, and the members of the council had not looked over the objections presented and could not tell yet whether the statute requirements had been met, and Mr. Murray's motion that the council take the matter under consideration was adopted.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

Town Council Asks Board of Freeholders to Pave Myrtle Avenue, East and West Passaic Avenue and Grove Street Under State Aid Road Act.

Action was taken by the Town Council Monday night towards placing several streets of this town in line for improvement under the State aid road act.

The required resolutions applying to the Board of Freeholders for the improvement of the streets were adopted and will be forwarded to the board.

The Myrtle avenue resolution was as follows:

"Whereas application is about to be made to the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Essex for the improvement by grading and paving with telford pavement of a street or highway known as Myrtle avenue, lying in the town of Bloomfield, Essex county, New Jersey, under and by virtue of the provisions of an act of the Legislature of the State of New Jersey, entitled 'An act to provide for the permanent improvement of the public roads of the State,' approved March 27, 1905, and the supplements thereto and the amendments thereof, the line of which said improvement is described as follows:

"Beginning in the northerly side of Bay avenue, thence running along Myrtle avenue in a northerly direction 6,150 feet, more or less, to Watchung avenue, as recently opened by the county and ending there.

"Therefore, be it resolved, that the mayor and council of the town of Bloomfield do hereby obligate said town to pay a sum equal to ten per centum of the cost of said improvement as and when the cost of said improvement shall be fully certified to said town.

"And be it further resolved that the mayor and clerk of the town of Bloomfield are hereby authorized, if and when so require, to execute and deliver on behalf of and in the name of said town an agreement in writing for the payment by said town of ten per centum of the cost of the aforesaid improvement."

Similar resolutions were passed for East Passaic avenue, West Passaic avenue and Grove street.

If the paving of the above streets is decided upon by the State road officials, the streets become county roads. It may be that only one or two streets will be selected this year for improvement, and there is a possibility that they may [illegible] of the above named streets, but was not successful.

In the case of the East Passaic avenue and Grove street resolutions, the improvement only applies to the newly opened extension of East Passaic avenue and to that part of Grove street between Bloomfield and Watsessing avenues.

Joint Committee Meeting.

Mayor Hauser made a report at the Town Council meeting Monday night of the proceedings of a meeting of the joint committee of representatives of Belleville, Nutley and this town, formed for the purpose of opposing the Montclair-East Orange Imhoff sewage disposal project. The meeting, the mayor said, was held in the council rooms here on Thursday evening, May 16, and at the request of Mayor Luxe of Nutley, who wanted to find out what expenses had been incurred up to date by the joint committee, owing to a change in the form of government in Nutley, Mayor Luxe will retire from office and he wants to make a final report before doing so.

The change in government, Mayor Luxe said, would make no change in sentiment in Nutley with respect to opposing the Hinck-Pierson project and that Nutley officials would continue to stand with Bloomfield and Belleville officials in the fight against the location of the Imhoff plant on the proposed site.

Mayor Hauser further stated that the joint committee had good reason to hope that Orange would draw out of the Imhoff compact, with East Orange and Montclair and join the Passaic Valley trunk sewer.

The joint committee, the mayor said, had arranged to be heard before the State Board of Health when the Montclair-East Orange proposition came before that body.

Colonel Roosevelt's Visit.

Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, the Progressive Republican candidate for nomination for President, in his flying tour through the northern part of this State Thursday, made a brief stop here in transit to Montclair.

The colonel was scheduled to arrive here at 5 o'clock in the evening, but it was 6 o'clock before his automobile reached the corner of Broad and Liberty street where he was announced to speak. A throng of at least two thousand men, women and children waited patiently for the colonel's arrival, and when his machine was sighted coming up Franklin street from Belleville, the crowd gave him an enthusiastic welcome, for which he expressed appreciation in his brief talk. His speech was a hasty outline in brief of the main points of his now familiar campaign addresses that have been delivered in nearly every State of the Union.

STREET PAVING.

Subject of Animated Discussion in the Council — Restrictive Ordinance Laid Over — Proposals for all Kinds of Paving to be Solicited.

The final reading of the Glenwood avenue paving and curb ordinance precipitated an animated discussion at the Town Council meeting Monday night.

Mayor Hauser asked if the curbing and paving resolutions could legally be included in one ordinance. Mr. Kocher's reply was in the affirmative.

The mayor then asked if anything had been done towards connecting the several plots of property along the street with sewer, water and gas mains in order that when the new pavement is put down it will not be necessary to disturb it.

Mr. Murray said that the water department was ready to make connections with the water mains, but was confronted with legal obstacles. It was decided to have all the necessary sewer connections made and follow them up with water main connections.

The resolution to pave Glenwood avenue specified bitulithic pavement and Mr. Murray attacked what he termed a restrictive feature that confined bids for the work to one kind of pavement.

Mr. Hummel of the road committee said that the council had originally adopted a resolution to pave the avenue with granite block pavement, but the property owners along the street presented a petition asking that bitulithic pavement be used instead.

Mr. Murray said that the request for a change was not made in a responsible manner, and that it was understood the council would have a selection from various materials.

Mr. Hummel contended that the property owners wanted bitulithic pavement and had seen it in use in Market street, Newark.

Town Attorney Kocher said that there could be no discretion exercised in the ordinance and that it must be specific, and a determination of the kind of pavement to be used must precede the passing of the ordinance.

Mr. Murray said that he expected that an opportunity for such determination would be given the council, and he considered it poor business policy to deprive the council of the benefit of competition for the work.

Mr. Hummel said that he could not grasp Mr. Murray's idea in the face of a request of property owners.

Mr. Murray retorted that the public [illegible] petition from Glenwood avenue property owners for the improvement of the street, and he did not consider it good business policy for the council to place itself at the mercy of one firm.

The council, Mayor Hauser said, ought to be advised of the cost of the various kinds of pavement.

Mr. Hummel said that as long as he was a member of the road committee a statement by property owners themselves as to the kind of pavement they wanted would take precedence with him.

Mr. Albinson claimed that the council knew approximately of the cost per yard of bitulithic pavement from the prices given to other municipalities.

Mr. Murray claimed that such prices were of no consequence. There was no road that could be used for comparison, and it was a question of paying any kind of a price that the proprietors of the pavement might ask.

Mr. Hummel held that if the citizens asked for a certain kind of pavement they ought to get it.

Mr. Unangst said that some one must have told the Glenwood avenue property owners the price of bitulithic before they asked for it.

Mr. Murray said he was opposed in principle to the adoption of the ordinance as restricted.

Mr. Albinson said that the council would have opportunity to pass on the bids and reject them if too high.

Mr. Murray's reply was that the council would have only one bid before it. He said that he did not want to hold up the improvement work, but he would have to vote against the ordinance. A vote was taken and the ordinance was defeated.

Mr. Unangst wanted to know when Glenwood avenue would ever be improved.

Mr. Murray said he would vote for its improvement only in a business-like way.

Mr. Kocher suggested a method of saving the ordinance for further consideration. Mr. Murray then moved a reconsideration of the vote, seconded by Mr. Sadler, and it was done and the matter laid over. Mr. Sadler spoke in favor of competitive bidding.

Mr. Murray said he thought it would be a mistake to publish the fact of the kind of pavement that must be used, and he did not think the property owners would like such a restriction.

It was finally decided that the town engineer prepare specifications and the clerk advertise for proposals for various kinds of road pavements, including wood blocks, bricks, granite blocks, bitulithic, asphalt and others.

Safe Deposit Boxes.

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THE CENTENNIAL.

LARGELY ATTENDED AND ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING TUESDAY NIGHT.

Committees Have About Completed Arrangements for the Various Events that will Make up the Centennial Programme.

More general enthusiasm in the centennial celebration is beginning to be manifested.

The meeting of the celebration committee held in Central Hall on Tuesday night was one of the most largely attended and enthusiastic yet held. In addition to members of the committee and citizens present there was a large delegation of women who have been assisting the educational committee in the preparations for the school children's part in the celebration.

The reports of the committees indicated that the celebration plans were in definite shape, and that a fine programme would be carried out, although not as originally planned.

Mr. McCroddan reported for the finance committee and stated that the committee had $9,000 in hand. In the paring down of expenses to square with the actual amount of money raised, Mr. McCroddan assured the women present that an exception would be made in the school children's part in the celebration, and the educational committee would be given its original allotment.

Mr. Hughes made an encouraging report for the parade and carnival committee, and outlined an elaborate scheme of decoration that will excel anything of the kind ever witnessed here before.

Mr. Sutphen for the historical meeting and historic exhibit committees stated that the historical meeting would be held in the First Presbyterian Church on Monday evening, June 10, and that the Rev. Joseph Folsom, secretary of the New Jersey Historical Society, and one of the best posted men in matters of local history, would be one of the speakers. All the church choruses in the town, Mr. Sutphen said, had been invited to join the chorus that would furnish music for the meeting.

Mr. Barrett of the invitation committee reported that the invitations to guests and to former residents of the town were ready to send out.

Mr. Haskell, who was absent from the meeting, sent a report to the effect that the historical book would arrive here on Saturday, the 25th inst., and be placed on sale next week.

Mr. Osborne of the banquet committee [illegible] tendered the use of Jarvie Memorial Hall for the banquet, free of charge, and a resolution of thanks to the church trustees was voted by the committee.

Banquet tickets, Mr. Osborne said, would be three dollars each, and would be sold in the order of first come, first served. The tickets will be placed on sale in the five drug stores in the town.

Mr. Farrand of the music committee stated that as soon as it was definitely known how many bands and drum corps would be needed his committee would make arrangements to engage them.

Mr. Morris of the educational committee reported everything in readiness for the school children's parade, and he gave great credit to the women who had assisted the committee.

Mr. Garabrant reported for the monument committee that arrangements were all completed for the erection of the monument, and that Colonel E. M. L. Ehlers, a Civil War veteran and secretary of the New York Masonic Grand Lodge, would be the orator at the unveiling of the monument. Colonel Ehlers, Mr. Garabrant said, was a former Bloomfielder and an excellent speaker. Mr. Garabrant gave an explanation of the symbolic features of the monument.

Mr. Ward reported for the committee on folk-dances that arrangements were completed for that feature of the affair.

Mr. Biggart for the fireworks committee reported that the fireworks display would be held in the Essex county park grounds, west of the Lackawanna Railroad, and that the committee had secured a large and fine assortment of fireworks for the occasion.

Captain Jones of Brookdale who will have charge of the concessions to showmen and venders, made a progress report.

Mr. Sadler reported progress on the souvenir programme, and said that centennial buttons, five cents each, and centennial medals, twenty-five cents each, were now on sale.

School Closing.

The closing exercises of Miss Handy's school and kindergarten will be held at the school, 27 Willard avenue, on Friday morning, May 31, at 10 o'clock. There will be an exhibit of the children's work of the past winter, and an attractive programme of songs and games. Those interested in primary and kindergarten work are cordially invited.

Coal Prices.

Mr. Newton of the Bloomfield Coal and Supply Company thinks there is small likelihood that retail dealers will be able to secure fall supplies of coal at once; he also predicts that there will be no immediate reduction in prices, and that next winter there will be a scarcity of some sizes and a further advance in prices.